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NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2003 2006

DOR-03903

MEMORANDUM FOR:

Litigation Division, OGC

VIA:

Deputy Chief, Compliance and Litigation, PCS

FROM:

Chief, External Inquiries Branch, IMS

SUBJECT:

Name Trace Request - Nazi War Crimes  
Investigations - BUTKUS, Zanis

REFERENCE:

OGC-94-51704 dated 27 May 1994

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1. A search of Directorate of Operations information surfaced the following information concerning Subject listed in reference. This information is for the use of the Office of General Counsel and should not be disseminated outside this Agency, or incorporated in any document which is so disseminated, without specific approval and release from the appropriate component of the Directorate of Operations.

2. Zanis Butkus was the subject of [ ] No. information surfaced concerning operational interest in Subject by the Directorate of Operations. According to CSCI-4166 dated 28 December 1955, the files of the Deputy Director for Plans contained the following information concerning an individual who was possibly identical with the subject of request. Information compiled by SHAEF during World War II from a source whose reliability was unknown, described one Zanis Butkus, born in Augstkalne, Latvia, as a member of the 19 Waffen Grenadier Division of the German Waffen SS in 1944. This memorandum further stated that the State Department should refer to the Department of the Army, CIC. (Reference: Report 272372 dated 21 March 1950, subject: Visa Applicant DP/48; report unavailable to this office.) (based on CSCI-4166 dated 28 December 1955, which

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in turn was based on SHAEF cards - according to the German desk these cards are no longer available)

3. According to information dated 31 October 1955, the Department of State requested a Refugee Relief Program U.S. File Check on Zanis Butkus, DPOB: 29 July 1906, Jelgava, Latvia. His occupation was given as driver. He was married to Velta Butkus with maiden name Ozols. Her DPOB: 17 July 1915, Tervete, Latvia. His residence during the past five years was given as Vogesenstr. 55/II Augsburg-Kriegshaber, Germany. (This information is for the exclusive use of OGC, and should not be disseminated outside this Agency without prior approval from the Department of State.) (based on IRP/769 dated 08 November 1955)

4. According to information dated January 1973, the French newspaper Le Monde, carried an excellent, long (about 1500 word), signed article by Bernard Feron entitled "50 years after its foundation, USSR must still assimilate revolution of human rights." The substance of the article was based on symposium proceedings and information and interpretations acquired by Feron during his coverage of same. The symposium (article provides identification data) specifically mentioned in following passage: ". . . during the symposium in Brussels, Professor Shapiro stated: 'the principal by which law should extend to all without distinctions is foreign to bolshevik thought. . . The constitution defines the rights of the citizen but it does not contain any provision obliging courts to respect these rights, added Mr. Shapiro. Today, as 50 years ago, the judges must let themselves be guided by the party. Mr. Butkus, who was until last July a member of the college Des Avocats of Kaunas and who currently lives in the U.S., was required to involve himself in the case of Father Zdebiski, a Lithuanian Catholic priest persecuted along with others because he was exercising his ministry (article 124 of the constitution guarantees freedom of worship.). 'In my capacity as head of the Kaunas court,' said Mr. Kaunas, 'I was called before the party committee. I was told, and such was also the opinion of the KGB, that I should dismiss from Zdebiski's defense the lawyer in whom he had confidence and replace him by another who would handle the defense in accordance with the leadership's directives'. . ." (based on C 3554 dated 04 January 1973)

5. In doing a file content listing for C DOR-00544 dated 26 August 1981 surfaced. However, the document was not in Subject's 201, nor was it available in DORIC. The original document was filed in 100-139-134, a file that was

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charged to someone who was retired. Inquiries have also been made to PCS/CL who claimed not to have this file. Therefore, a copy of this document was not available for review.

Attachment:  
Name Check

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IMS/EIB: [ ] 43849/CL BY [ ] (23 June 1994)

Based On: [ ]  
IRP/769 dated 08 November 1955  
CSCI-4166 dated 28 December 1955  
LCPIPIT 35541 dated 04 January 1973

File In: 100-139-, X-Ref [ ]

Coord In Draft: EUR/G [ ]  
CE/R/ISP [ ]

Distribution:

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